

BOOK NOTES.

NOTES ON THE SUPPLEMENT TO LENG'S CATALOGUE OF COLEOPTERA.

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This supplement, just off the press, is an excellent and much needed addition to the main work, though it seems that it might have been brought up to a year or two later than December 31, 1924. There are apparently fewer errors proportionally than in the main work. This is not to be wondered at as the Catalogue proper was a stupendous task for one man, while in the preparation of the Supplement, Leng has been aided by A. J. Mutchler, the efficient Coleopterist of the American Museum of Natural History.

I have so far gone over the Supplement only as it relates to my own work between the years 1919 and 1924. It is an unwritten law that every daddy will come to the defense of his offspring when he deems them unjustly attacked—even if at times he is not able always to recognize them as they “come down the pike.” The following notes are therefore given in correction of, or as stating my present viewpoint of, some of the species, which I have fathered or commented upon, and which are mentioned either by number or name in the Supplement.

18607. *Dyschirius dissimilis* Blatch. This is not a *Dyschirius* but is a species of *Clivina* and was so described.

1479. *Badister micans* Lec. There is in the Leconte collection at Cambridge an undoubted specimen of *Badister* which bears the name *micans*. Though Casey (20-206) stated that *micans* is not recognizable, that was his individual opinion. The type, so marked, is available to all students, though for specific reasons perhaps not to Casey at the time he wrote. My *B. micans* from Indiana (10-19) were compared with this type and I believe the name should stand with the Cambridge specimen as its basis.

2332. *Peltodytes (Cnemidotus) pedunculatus* Blatch. The types of this species were among a series of Haliplidae sent to Frederick Blanchard, of Tyngsboro, Mass., in 1909. He picked them out and returned them to me with the statement that they were “different from either *P. 12-punctatus* Say or *P. muticus* Lec.,” and that examples were in the collection of Chris. H.

Roberts under the manuscript name of *C. pedunculatus*. Mr. Blanchard, one of the most careful and astute of American Coleopterists then living, was at that time collaborating with Roberts in the preparation of a work on North American Haliplidae, and was, therefore, making a special study of the family. He pointed out the characters distinguishing the species and I described it in the Coleoptera of Indiana under the manuscript name of Roberts. Blanchard died in 1912, and in 1913 Roberts published the "Notes on Haliplidae,"¹ in which he recognized (pp. 120-123) *pedunculatus* as a valid species. Later on one Zimmerman, a German Coleopterist, without seeing my type or, as far as I know, any specimen of the true *pedunculatus*, made it a synonym of *12-punctatus*, and his conclusion is adopted by Leng as follows: "2332-2336 fide Zimm., 19-69." *P. pedunculatus* is without doubt a valid species and not a synonym of 2336 or anything else. The structural characters distinguishing it are well set forth by Roberts in his description (p. 120, *loc. cit.*), although the species can be at once separated from its close allies by color characters alone.

2342. *Canthydus gibbulus* Aubé. This is another species which Zimmerman in his zeal made a synonym, this time of Say's *C. bicolor*. That the two are distinct has been shown by Sharp (82-271) and by my key (19-308). Moreover, *C. floridanus* Blatch. is not a synonym of *C. gibbulus*. It is always smaller, shorter and more convex, of a darker hue and with median metasternal plate shorter, more sparsely punctate and punctures of elytra much less distinct. These characters hold good of large series without intermediate variation.

2406. *Cælambus marginipennis* Blatch. The distinctions between this species and 2407, *C. acaroides* (Lec.), have been set forth by me (19-312) and it is not necessary to repeat them here. The two forms can be separated at a glance and no intermediates have been found.

4297. *Gyrophynus linearis* (Blatch.). This specific name as originally assigned to the genus *Xantholinus* (10-395) was valid and was so recognized in the Catalogue proper. Now, according to the vagaries and inconsistencies of our present-day system of nomenclature, it has been placed in a different genus in which there happens to be a *linearis* of prior date. Hence it has been changed by one of those European sharks (who are always on the

¹ Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., XXI, 1913, 92-123.

lookout for minor prey of this kind) to *lineatus* and his name affixed as authority, though he never saw the species and therefore does not really know to what genus it belongs. Another example of this kind was my *Donacia megacornis* (No. 15205) which, in the Catalogue, was changed to *D. megalocera* Weise, because I happened to get a Latin instead of a Greek ending to the specific name. I am pleased to note that following Schaeffer (1925-113) the authors of the Supplement have restored my name.

19912. *Hallomenus fuscoturalis* Blatch. According to Schaeffer (17-359) this is a synonym of *Allopora lutea* Hald.

19988. *Ligyris subtropicus* Blatch. The *Ligyris laevicollis* Bates of Casey (15-190) and other authors is not a synonym of *subtropicus*, as one would judge by the placement of that name in the Supplement, but is a very distinct form. A specimen is at hand, taken with others by W. T. Davis at Everglade, Fla., and it is in the Brooklyn Museum collection from Chokoloskee. If it is not the *laevicollis* of Bates it is, as yet, probably unnamed.

20188. *Colaspidea insularis* Blatch. This species was described from the Isle of Pines, Cuba, and not from Florida. The specimens were received from Prof. J. R. Watson, to whom they had been sent by citrus growers on the Isle of Pines for identification.

15895d. *Disonycha parva* Blatch. This will without doubt prove to be a valid species and not a variety of *pennsylvanica*. In long series from both Indiana and Florida the length is uniformly but about two-thirds that of *pennsylvanica*, and the elytra are always darker, non-alutaceous, and more strongly bisulcate along the median stripe. Frederick Knab once wrote me that in his opinion this small form is the typical *pennsylvanica* of Illiger. If this should prove to be true, the larger, paler and more common form at present going under that name would have to be known as *uniguttata* Say, which is apparently the oldest of a number of synonyms.